



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Tobias, et al.

Group Art Unit No.: 2819

Examiner: NYA

Serial No.: 09/499,961

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with a copy of the document cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited document be considered and that the enclosed copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

- X 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement is one of the following:
- A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or

_____ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

_____ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement are the following:

- (1) A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
- (2) A petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement; and
- (3) A check for \$_____ for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

_____ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the grant of a patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

- (1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or fees are deemed necessary.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: December 14, 2000



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on 12.14.00 by Lisena Say